

Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OIC-04 DRC-01

/158 W

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R 131205Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7055

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 16365

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SEATO OCON

SUBJ: SEATO: GVN INVITATION TO SEATO COUNCIL MEETING

REF: STATE 181824

1. DECISION ON INVITATION TO GVN AS SEATO OBSERVER CONVEYED TO DUC BY CHARGE IN ACCORDANCE REFTEL EXPLAINING IN DETAIL OUR EFFORTS TO RIGHT THE SITUATION.

2. QUESTION WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT UPPOER MOST IN HIS MIND BECAUSE HE ASKED WHEN AND WHERE MEETING WOULD BE HELD AND WHO ALL WOULD PARTICIPATE. NEVERTHELESS HE UNDERSTOOD FULLY THAT OBJECTING MEMBERS WERE AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND AND INTERNAL POLITICAL BACKGROUND OF THEIR POSITION.

3. DUC WAS NOT IN THE LEAST TROUBLED OR OFFENDED. HE SAID HANOI DOES NOT PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO SEATO AND WAS UNLIKELY TO TAKE
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MATTER SERIOUSLY. FURTHERMORE HE SAID GVN NAD PARTICIPATED WHEN

SEATO MEMBERS WITH FORCES IN VIETNAM NEEDED GVN
ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION BUT SINCE LAST YEAR'S MEETING PARIS ACCORDS
HAD CREATED NEW SITUATION. FACT THAT GVN DID NOT PARTICIPATE WOULD
BE ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION OF ITS FULL SUPPORT OF PARIS ACCORDS.
ABSENCE WOULD AVOID ANY MISUNDERSTANDING OR MALICIOUS INTERPRETATION
THAT GVN WAS LOOKING FOR MILITARY SOLUTIONS AND FURTHER
INVOLVEMENT OF SEATO MEMBERS. NOTING THAT MEETING WOULD BE DEVOTED TO
RESTRUCTURING SEATO HE SAID THIS WAS CLEARLY A MATTER OF CONCERN
ONLY TO MEMBERS. IF IT LED TO NEW PROGRAMS FOR PEACEFUL
DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGION GVN WOULD HAVE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO
PARTICIPATE AND WOULD REMAIN IN THE CLOSEST BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP
WITH SEATO MEMBERS AND OTHER NEIGHBORS. FINALLY, HE SAID GVN
WOULD NOT WISH TO CREATE ANY EMBARRASSMENT FOR SEATO OR FOR
AUSTRALIA OR NEW ZEALAND HOPED LATTER TWO WOULD FIND WAYS OF
REMAINING RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF REGIONAL COMMUNITY AND WOULD
ACHIEVE BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF RVN AS RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTABLE
AND PEACE SEEKING STATE.

4. DUC APPRECIATED OUR CONCERN FOR GVN INTERESTS AND FRANK
EXPLANATION OF SITUATION. HE APPEARED TO ACCEPT IT WITHOUT ANY
DIFFICULTY AND TURNED IMMEDIATELY TO THESE THOUGHTS OF HOW BEST
TO USE IT.
APPLING

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NNN

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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